



NIT-241

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

Applicants: M. NISHIDA et al.

Serial No.: 09/940,924

Filed: August 29, 2001

For: METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR MANAGING CONSUMER  
GOODS USED IN AN ANALYER

Group: 3647

Examiner: L. Jasmin

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT  
UNDER 37 CFR §1.97 & 1.98**

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

**February 7, 2007**

Sir:

In the matter of the above-identified application, Applicants are submitting herewith a copy of a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application and copies of the foreign references listed in the attached form equivalent to Form PTO-1449 for the Examiner's consideration.

This information disclosure statement is being submitted and is accompanied by the following certification specified in 37 CFR §1.97(e):

On information and belief, I hereby certify that each item of information contained in this information disclosure statement was first cited in any communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of this statement.

To the extent the documents listed on the attached form equivalent to Form PTO-1449 are not in the English language, the requirement of 37 CFR §1.98(a)(3) for a concise explanation of the relevance is satisfied by an English language abstract and a translation of the documents.

It is respectfully requested that this information disclosure statement be considered by the Examiner.

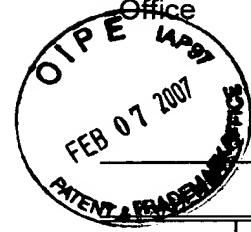
No fee is believed to be due. However, please charge any shortage in the fees due in connection with the filing of this paper, including extension of time fees, to the deposit account of Mattingly, Stanger, Malur & Brundidge, Deposit Account No. 50-1417 (referencing attorney docket no. NIT-241) please credit any excess fees to such deposit account.

Respectfully submitted,

MATTINGLY, STANGER, MALUR & BRUNDIDGE, P.C.

  
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<b>FORM PTO-1449</b> U.S. Department of Commerce (Rev. 4/92) Patent and Trademark Office		ATTY. DOCKET NO.	SERIAL NO.
		<b>NIP-241</b>	<b>09/940,924</b>
<b>INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT</b>		APPLICANT <b>M. NISHIDA et al.</b>	
(Use several sheets if necessary)		FILING DATE <b>August 29, 2001</b>	GROUP <b>3627</b>

## **U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS**

## **FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS**

	DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	COUNTRY	CLASS	SUBCLASS	ABSTRACT	
						YES	NO
	WO 00/2999A	25/05/2000	WO				
	EP 0 8710034A2	14/10/1997	EP				

**OTHER DOCUMENTS (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)**


**EXAMINER** \_\_\_\_\_ **DATE CONSIDERED** \_\_\_\_\_

**EXAMINER:** Initial if citation is considered, draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

(Form PTO-1449 [6-4])